

**2014  
UTAH BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING  
EARTH DAY AWARDS**

**Nomination Form**

**Nominee Information**

**Company Name:** Intermountain Power Agency  
**Address:** 10653 S. River Front Parkway, Suite 120  
**City, State, Zip:** South Jordan, UT 84095  
**Contact Person:** Jim Hewlett  
**Phone:** 801-938-1333  
**Site Name:** IPA Rails to Trails Project  
**Location:** Carbon County, Utah

**Activity and Category (Please check one activity and one category)**

**Activity**

- Oil and Gas
- Minerals
- **Coal XXXX**

**Category**

- Environmental improvement to an active mine site, drilling or recovery site, or field
- Outstanding results following applications of innovative environmental technology
- Outstanding final reclamation or site restoration
- Best practices
- **Other Mine Lands Conversion for Recreational Use**

**Nominated By**

**Name:** John Ward  
**Address:** 6198 S. Valley Drive  
**City, State, Zip:** Murray, UT 84107  
**Phone:** 801-560-9801

**Nomination Summary (attach additional sheets, photos, etc., as necessary)**

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**PLEASE SEE ATTACHED**

Return no later than January 31, 2014 to: Earth Day Awards, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210, P.O. Box 145801. Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801. Phone (801) 538-5324 Fax (801) 359-3940. Nominations may also be submitted electronically, email to [jimspringer@utah.gov](mailto:jimspringer@utah.gov)

# 2014 Earth Day Awards Nomination

Intermountain Power Agency  
IPA Rails to Trails Project  
Carbon County, Utah

## Executive Summary

The Intermountain Power Agency (“IPA”) has completed a five-year project to convert nine miles of unused railroad property near the Sunnyside coal mine in East Carbon, Utah, into recreational property for the benefit of the Carbon County community.

Completed at a cost of more than \$625,000, the project required removal of rails and ties, grading of right-of-way to accommodate all terrain vehicle use, reconstruction of culverts and drainage, acquisition of privately owned land along the corridor, and extensive coordination with local, state and federal government entities.

## Project Design and Execution

Beginning in the early 2000s, Carbon County communities began developing recreational trails for all terrain vehicle (“ATV”) use. In 2008, IPA proposed to East Carbon officials that the Agency could convert nine miles of its unused rail line in the area for recreation.

Work commenced with the removal of rails and ties from the length of the railroad right-of-way, followed by grading.



The project was interrupted in 2009 by flooding caused by extensive thunderstorms. As a result, 25 culverts were cleaned and re-engineered. Additional retaining walls were constructed along the right-of-way and a maintenance road was constructed.



In order to provide permanent recreational access to the area, IPA acquired 38 acres of private property along the trail and petitioned the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to re-designate the right-of-way from railroad to recreational use. The BLM activity included the completion of an environmental assessment of the finished project.



The IPA Rails to Trails Project was officially deeded for recreational use in early January 2014.



### **About the Intermountain Power Agency**

IPA is an organization of 23 Utah municipalities formed to finance, construct, operate and maintain the Intermountain Power Project (“IPP.”) The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power serves as Operating Agent. The Intermountain Power Service Corporation staffs the generating station and related facilities.

IPP includes a two-unit coal-fueled generating station located in Millard County, two transmission systems, a microwave communication system and a railcar service center, all built as a joint undertaking by 36 utilities in Utah and California. IPP generates an average of more than 13 million megawatt hours of energy each year, consuming about 5 million tons of coal annually.